GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1846
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2000
GAUGE CONVERSION OF KOLAR AND CHIKKABALLAPUR RAIL LINE
R.L. JALAPPA

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the railway line between Kolar and Chikkaballapur in Karnataka is most essential for connecting Bangalore-Bangarpet;

(b) if so, whether any representation has been received by the Government in this regard; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a): Bangalore-Bangarpet are already directly connected by rail. The line between Kolar to Chickballapur if connected would provide another, albeit longer alternative route between these points.

(b): Representations have been received for restoration of the railway line after conversion to B.G.

(c): A survey for gauge conversion of Chickballapur to Kolar has recently been completed. The survey report revealed that the cost of the 85 km B.G. line would be Rs. 53.54 cr. with negative rate of return. In view of the grossly unremunerative nature of the line and acute constraint of resources it has not been found possible to consider the project for the present.